



## BEFORE & AFTER Less Lead for Pupils Post-Remediation

### School's rehabilitation means healthier place for children to learn

*El Shahid Ahmed Shaalan Primary School, in the heavily industrialized area of East Shoubra El-Kheima, has approximately 750 pupils between ages 5 and 12. USAID assisted the government of Egypt in closing down polluting industries that caused serious health hazards in the neighborhood. A related, second USAID-funded project identified the school as a polluted site that posed serious health hazards due to the presence of lead and other heavy metals from the nearby closed industries. Studies conducted at the initiation of the project showed that a large percentage of the area's children had blood lead levels higher than acceptable, which can cause a number of health risks. The USAID project remediated the school to reduce the dangerous levels of lead pollution in its soil and structures. The remediation has resulted in a decrease in lead pollution to levels that are not endangering the lives of Shoubra El-Kheima residents, and especially the children of the Ahmed Shaalan School.*

Telling Our Story  
U.S. Agency for International Development  
Washington, DC 20523-1000  
<http://stories.usaid.gov>



Photo: LIFE-Lead/ Fady Nessim

#### BEFORE

Before remediation, the level of lead in school soil reached 600  $\mu\text{g/g}$ . On doors and windows, the level reached 14000  $\mu\text{g/}$  square feet.



Photo: LIFE-Lead/ Fady Nessim

#### AFTER

After remediation, the level of lead in school soil has decreased to 78  $\mu\text{g/g}$ , and to 13  $\mu\text{g/}$ square feet on doors and windows.